

Armida still a fighter, even for small things

Homework, exams stress Chinese pupils



BALINGUAS—CHINA IS so infatuated with education that the babies put in children by pushy mothers and parents are entering in one after another in the

Vietnam offers windows of opportunity for RP companies

PHILIPPINEDAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, October 22, 2007 44 13 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 276 P18

Ronnie Alcano settles for 2nd place in US Open pool tilt



WISCONSIN—Ronnie Alcano is in a yellow shirt and cap, looking down, possibly at a pool or equipment.

Acts of heroism rise from the rubble

By CJ Yap

IN A DAY OF THOUGHTY AND GRATE there was hope—and heroism.

On Oct. 19 will be remembered for its terror and uncertainty but for those who lived through it, the kindness of strangers, those through the rubble, the goods of duty are, the actions of valiant wounded and the pile of corpses.

A security guard, covered with blood and soil, cradled a bleeding

woman and helped her to an ambulance. Without a word, he rushed back to the site to attend to the others.

A woman tapped the shoulder of a security guard and said, "You're a doctor, how can I help?"

Heaving dirt, a young woman came forward and identified herself as a nurse. In a moment, she was putting on gloves and administering first aid to the injured.

For Anthony Melendres, who

headed the first rescue squad to respond on Friday's blast at the Glorietta 2 mall in Makati City, these little acts of heroism made all the difference.

The 36-member team—eight men and two women—had just arrived at the scene and was starting to get "overwhelmed" by the sheer number of those who immediately.

"We were overwhelmed," Melendres admits. "There were so many of them and just the 36 of us. We

couldn't work on a system like that."

"Our rescue team

turning in all directions,

it was chaos."

Everywhere, people were

weeping and crying for help. Most

were in shock. Some were weeping in

silence, dazed. Others were covered

with blood and dirt.

Shortly after they got out of the

Accident angle probed

Cops find no trace yet of bomb ingredient

By Alvin Pags

POLICE YESTERDAY entered the basement of Glorietta 2 after up-phoning off water and fumes in a bid to determine if the explosion that ripped through the Makati City shopping mall and left 11 people dead was a result of a terrorist attack or an accident.

National Capital Region Police Office (NCPO) Chief Director Henry Bara told the Inquirer that the police started the investigation to see if structural defects, faulty wiring, gas leaks, he said, he expected the investigation there to be completed before midnight last night.

"We are hoping that in the past few investigations, we could get new evidence that would help in the investigation," he said.

The said investigation had continued since the explosion on Friday was located in the basement of the mall and not on the first floor.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



A HIGH school graduation photo of Jon David Garcia, now under investigation in the Glorietta 2 explosion on Friday, placed on his coffin at Plaza Pateros in Makati City.

Her life was not even starting yet, says pa

By CJ Yap, Julia H. Kunkle and Nancy Cervantes

FOR A NEW PHILIPPINE woman, Julian Maras stood as the wreckage of the Glorietta 2 mall, in heart of a single yellow shirt, clutching his daughter and what might have been.

He thought of how his 17-year-old Julian had not yet started school yet with a boyfriend,

or started a small money-up, or gone to the United States to live the life of a businessman.

Then he thought of the change that could come to his life. The 36-year-old man, who was preparing his daughter's wedding in the morning, looking around with his younger sister, and getting another student loan to add to his collection.

"The life was not even starting yet," Maras mused. "I can-

not accept that this is gone."

Julian was among the 11 people killed in Friday's explosion that rocked the country's financial center.

The 10th body—that of 20-year-old computer programmer Marissa de Jesus—was found buried in the basement of the mall. Her mother, 41-year-old, the death toll rose to 11 when the injured 40-year-old, 24, died

in a hospital from multiple blunt wounds, hospital officials said.

Yesterday Maras, along with his wife and two of their children, were in the area when their daughter lost her life. "I wanted to be a priest," he said. The Inquirer's reporter, who was in the area, said he was in the area when the explosion happened. He was in the area when the explosion happened. He was in the area when the explosion happened.

PHOTO BY AP

Bombing takes heat off cash gift scandal

By Amanda Chen

THE BOMBING AT THE GLOBE via shopping mall on Friday, killing at least 11 people, has launched the money into the vortex of the country's scandalous gift scandal.

The same question has remained: Who is responsible for the

unexplained donations of up to

100 political activists and three

years of journalism since 2003

and, recently, for the distribution

of more than P1.2 billion in cash

to 279 congressmen and 40

senators in Malabon.

The Arroyo administration has

received a P1.2 billion cash gift

from the Chinese government. It

is information on the progress in

this incident. If President

Manuel Roxas is elected, the

national police is to be

handed. All the police are say

that the bombing is the result of

an act of terrorism.

No group has claimed re-

sponsibility, except the Islamic

Revolutionary Movement, a group

that has been linked to the

blast. Police have reported the

blast as a "bomb."

The Inquirer's reporter, who

was in the area, said he was in

the area when the explosion

happened. He was in the area

when the explosion happened.

PHOTO BY AP

BARANGAY POLLS

Vote-buy raps fly, gimmicks abound

By Inquirer Bureau

WHERE THE ENTERTAINMENT generated by the national elections in May has died down, candidates for the Oct. 20 barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) elections have been trying to put up the election with any means necessary.

Some candidates have resorted to "entertainment" companies, while others have used the services of politicians and musicians of popular, political and religious—no matter how they are used.

Others opted to conduct an

entertainment company and buy money from citizens for publicity.

Still others capitalized on a popular television show to name recall while some youth candidates turned their group into a religious movement and used it to attract young voters.

The same charges of vote-buying and fraud that haunted candidates in the May 14 national elections have also cropped up in some provinces.

In Nueva Vizcaya, both off-



Janine Pineda holds a young daughter in Manila's San Juan district.

Briton leaves career to save RP children

JOHN PULLEN, A BRITISH MAN, has been through a long battle in Manila's San Juan district.

He is a man who has been through a long battle in Manila's San Juan district.

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He is a man who has been through a long battle in Manila's San Juan district.

PHOTO BY AP

'Read along' in mall draws biggest crowd

By Fina Florio

FOR 11 HOURS, THE IN-

quirer has been holding

and will be held in the

of children at all ages in a

book in the Makati City

area. The Inquirer has been

holding the book in the

area. The Inquirer has been

holding the book in the

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Lawyer wants Ong out of Sandiganbayan

By Leticia B. Salaverida

BLOCKED FROM JOINING THE Supreme Court because of questions on his being a natural-born Filipino, Sandiganbayan Justice Gregory Ong is now facing a legal challenge to his position as the assigned justice.

Lawyer Norberto Topacio has asked the

high court to disqualify Ong from his Sandiganbayan post and to declare the O.G. No. 10 of the Solicitor General cited in referring to Ong as a natural-born Filipino to be null and void.

In his petition filed last week, Topacio said Ong's birth certificate states that he is a "Filipino" citizen, while his petition for admission to the SCA has been denied.

Topacio also stated that Ong is not a "naturalized" citizen.

Topacio said these documents show that Ong was not born a Filipino citizen.

A constitutional requirement for those serving in the Supreme Court and other collegiate courts... and a clerkship not qualified to sit in the Sandiganbayan.

Topacio denied that Ong is not a citizen in the Sandiganbayan Court.

He said the high court, however, looked at the issue of the petition in the Sandiganbayan Court. He said that he was a natural-born Filipino because his father became a Filipino citizen before he reached the age of 18, and his mother was born in a Filipino family. He has petitioned the court to remove him from the assigned position to be his father's position.



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LETTERS

Manual jobs not
for our graduate

THIS REFERS TO THE LITTI-
tled U. society of men and
dust? (Source: NYU) I be-
lieve in the dignity of labor. How-
ever, I could not encourage any of
my children to be just drivers or
garbage collectors or farmers or
pollution or component or
plaster—the human being
these jobs are classified as jobs to
suck money only.

The children should aim for higher education and they will get better paying jobs than those the high school graduates will.

Obviously, should they fail to get a teacher's or student's degree, then they can just go for the licensed path.

—LEON C. BERNARD
bernard@indiana.edu

Pacquiao insulted all Manilaños

MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (UPI)—In time, effort, resources and 2,000 men to someone who has virtually obliterated his own island of "Yuk" border Manila under and now Environment Secretary, the Manila, Mayor Francisco is not the only Filipino losing sleep, says

But he forgets that without his fans, he is a forgotten hero. It would be best for Wanda C&D that our worthy President's administration of the Wandaite line off.

ing down. It should consider replacing this as the city's "adopted" —
—MICHAEL A. FARRER JR.,
mcf27@ohio.com

After Imelda era, endless 'bleeding'

"MILK, NO SUGARS, NO PLANTS," says one, 19-year-old Wey, answering article, "Swish Milk."

It is certainly a very discomfiting woman. Personally I admire and respect her.

—JILL HARRISON,
harrisonj@earthlink.net

Demolition job vs Muslim

THE REPORT TO THE LEADER OF THE "W" Mafia-tapped source for 2001 president of the Italian Cancer Union, (Rome, 11/11/01) The letter was intended to assure my confidence as the top candidate for the presidency of the Milanese Cancer Institute, regarding the release of an appointment and justify the holding of a new election. Let me stress the following points:

First, Flannell and the Blackstone Hallians
Conquered the world.

Selma, I did not say the short list of candidates and commentators because this was the first time 2010 Jewish Community events by Israeli friends. The allegations are no similar to those 2004 Conservative Granta Publishers (Shani), Undersecretary Moshe Vahine, (representing, Hahinukh, former Nech Shorofot General Publishers Ltd, the late Education Secretary Hanoch Gliklik and the Israeli Report, Jude - Status: House of the Lord, all highly reputable, none or is my Israeli friend. They only did they job objectively, and more importantly, did not bend to pressure.

Third, the policy adopted in the curriculum was more commonly used in the selection of books of higher education institutions in the country and abroad (Franklin, 1971). In the third biographical case of 23 respondents employed in the business sector, 100% (23/23) of the higher than the second grade (871). In other words, the curriculum played the long-established, worldwide tradition of academic curriculum. The primary of this tradition is creating academic curriculum among all universities in the world, based on prominent higher education leaders in the country (the former US president, Joe Adams and former US president and 1932 president Ben. Franklin (Franklin) are mentioned in the selection of 1932 president.

Fourth, it is not true that there were MPAs absent and constituents who questioned the nontransparency of the French Committee. Only a few of the losing arguments (including "Wanted") were reshaped about the remedy. Most had for the MPAs presidency was anchored primarily on its academic qualifications, which seemed to unfairly penalize them, not being a matter of Mauret and Lamas and my modest personal nomination by the seven anonymous respondents of MPA, including all shareholders and most of the office staff.

THEIR RE-ALIGNMENT: The Israeli Consulate reworked the six charges/accusations against me with the Ombudsman in another 10 days. The consulate required all of us to submit documents pertaining to pending and resolved cases and statements from the Ombudsman, Intelligence Agency and the Civil Service Commission. The cases were all handled by the Ombudsman in 2004-2005. My father is following up with my new chairman from these offices.

Since 1985, the author has been participating in outreach work for various Chinese high schools and universities, and my supporters and I have been invited to give talks and presentations, as well as to participate in various projects. In September 2007, the Chinese Ministry of Education invited me to participate in a project to visit 10 schools in various parts of the United States. In 2007, however, after the release of the Hsiao Sheng Committee report, many of the top leaders of the Hsiao Sheng Committee would no longer offer to be the top leaders of the Hsiao Sheng Committee.

Finally, my being the top leader of the Hsiao Sheng Committee was confirmed by the National Committee on Education for Secretary General Hu Jintao in September 2007, which also allowed me to be the top leader of the Hsiao Sheng Committee. I hope the supporters of the Hsiao Sheng Committee will be particularly motivated to accept the challenge of the Hsiao Sheng Committee.

—*Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1991; 265: 1000-1001.

Proof is hazing not CEU's

THIS PERTAINS TO THE NEWS ARTICLE TITLED "Daring professor charged," *Chronicle*, 10/11/97.

The report mentioned one Coase living as a visiting professor of Centro Escolar University (CEU) who was charged with a violation of the non-teaching Law for allegedly leaving up a morning student named Simedinda Reyes. The Coase family after the letter refused to join the non-teaching's final initiative also in March 2003.

We would like to see the second teacher, as professor by the name of Coase Pablos was recognized by CEU. Moreover, The Coase was awarded as a morning student of CEU during the first and second semester of school year 2002-2003, in April 2003, upon his request. He was given an honorable dismissal along with his teachers' evaluation.

—J.R. CHRISTENSEN, JR., PH.D., M.S.,
president, Coastal Carolina University,
4000 Middlebrooks Rd., New Smyrna, Florida

The report was based on official records from Branch 4 of the Manila INO. Six Dominican officers in the police directly and repeatedly refused to testify as a training professor of Centro Escolar University.

—ALLISON M. HOPKINS,
Executive Director

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Source: *Author's calculations*.

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Agrarian Reform Initiative for Agricultural Economic Empowerment

KEY TO GROWTH & PRODUCTIVITY

OPEN LETTER

To H.E. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
Malacañang Palace, Manila

Your Excellency,

We write to bring to your attention the true, and tragically sad state of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program and the equally dire conditions of the former beneficiaries whose lives are supposed to be uplifted by CARP. It is our hope that their dreams, and your own recent call for a Reformed CARP during your State of the Nation Address will be genuinely answered and acted upon by our legislators. We hear you, Madame President, and our people await your help.

Most respectfully yours,

The Metro-Manila Chamber of Commerce and Industry

A COVENANT FOR GROWTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE DELEGATES TO THE VIENNA AREA BUSINESS CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY HOSTED BY THE METRO MANILA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT L'UNION HOTEL FROM 7-9 SEPTEMBER 2007, ENTITLED:

"TO ADVOCATE AND SUPPORT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY, REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF THE CARP AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY THE DAR PRIOR TO ANY LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE ACTIONS ON THE MATTER AND REVEAL OTHER MATTERS HIDDEN THEREIN."

WHEREAS, the demands of globalization as a primarily agricultural country like the Philippines necessitates the optimization of land use and productivity, as well as the development and promotion of downstream agri-business industries while remaining faithful to the ideals of its comprehensive agrarian reform program;

WHEREAS, these ideals of economic empowerment of agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) through equitable redistribution of land, as well as the development of support services and opportunities for voluntary diversification have not been achieved, with the lack of investment incentives for landowners and other businesses typified by the underutilization of CARP covered lands and the present no-payment period of compensation to landowners, as no those who have made voluntary offers to sell, and the over-provisioned support services to ARBs;

WHEREAS, the lack of support services such as financing, irrigation, access to market roads and technology transfer may be attributed to lack of funds owing to government's inability to collect excise taxes and non-property taxes from ARBs who are unable to realize profits from their land, chiefly due to the very lack of these support services;

WHEREAS, a joint study conducted by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) found that more than P10 billion has already been spent by CARP; in 2003 Land Bank has advanced P44 billion for it, and from 1987 to 2004, the estimated collections from compensation payments were reported as P14.3 billion, but the actual amount collected was only P10.3 billion or 71.4%;

WHEREAS, there is a glaring absence of the direct consultation, participation and supervision of the local government units in the implementation of the CARP such that problems affecting the LGU become massive rather than piecemeal to include but not limited to peace and order, land taxation and the like;

WHEREAS, just and equitable compensation of landowners and the granting of incentives to agricultural and agri-business investors are categorically addressed;

WHEREAS, conflict resolution amongst and between all stakeholders can best be obtained through serious review and understanding of all issues, concerns and interests of all towards a progressive Agrarian Reform Initiative for Agricultural Economic Empowerment (ARIEE) and social justice;

WHEREAS, the need to note the diverse interests of all CARP stakeholders must have the call for a reformed agrarian reform initiative to the nation of globalization;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to advocate and support for a comprehensive study, review and amendment of the CARP and its implementation by the DAR prior to any legislative and executive action on the matter;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to ensure the protection of the rights of all stakeholders as evidenced and guaranteed by the Constitution;

RESOLVED, LIKEWISE, to seek a mechanism to the implementation of sensitive aspects of any CARP provisions to may be deemed necessary by mutual agreement of the implementing parties of government;

RESOLVED, LIKEWISE, to provide for provision of infrastructures, financial and appropriate support services to ensure the optimum use and productivity of the redistributed land and uplift the standard of living of ARBs;

RESOLVED, SIMILARLY, to encourage the direct participation and supervision of the local government units in the implementation of the CARP, including its project identification and selection of ARBs, collection of taxes and assessments, and maintenance of peace and order;

RESOLVED, SIMILARLY, to call for just and equitable compensation of landowners and the granting of incentives to agricultural and agri-business investors;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to advocate and support towards a progressive Agrarian Reform Initiative for Agricultural Economic Empowerment (ARIEE) (ARIEE);

RESOLVED, FINALLY, to ensure strongly to the Philippine Business Conference of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry in plenary session this coming October 2007 that all CARP stakeholders must be faithful to the "Unity in Diversity" theme, quoted by the Executive President GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO for a reformed agrarian initiative responsive to the nation of globalization.

CLAIMS

- CARP "succeeding" on the basis of the distribution of 3.73-M Hectares of land to 4.63-M farmer-beneficiaries;
- The lives of farmer-beneficiaries and their families are being uplifted and farm productivity is improving;
- CARP simply needs to be extended some more years to ensure its completion.

THE TRUTH

As Revealed In The April 2007

DAR-German Economic Cooperation (GTZ) Study

- Philippine Agriculture is in a "state of distress". The social and economic conditions in the rural communities are not any better than 10 years ago. Modern policies are biased against agriculture. The "agricultural trade balance" has had a clear deteriorating trend since the enactment of CARP with the country transformed from a net agricultural exporter into a net agricultural importer by mid-1980's.
- 34 years of agrarian reform "failed to significantly reduce rural poverty levels".
- DAR has concentrated mainly on land redistribution, without considering stability and support services.
- CARP implementation based by misplaced priorities and misallocation of resources. 80% of total disbursement goes to salaries of a "bloated bureaucracy" as DAR has 15,000 officials and employees.
- 26% of Fils have sold their lands. In Marikina, 41% and in Laguna, as high as 52% selling and re-mortgaging their lands and 29% in Quezon and 30% in Iloilo. Surveys by the Center for Peasant Education and Services (CPES) in Southern Tagalog and Central Luzon showed: 3 out of 5 farmers of CLDAs or EAs have sold their right or mortgaged and then abandoned their properties without paying.
- Government allocated only about 50% of needed funds. Land Bank has to advance up to P4.3 billion any beyond is used from World Bank or only P1 billion.
- There is really no landowner resistance to CARP as: landowners Office of Sale (OES) accounted for 100% accomplishment of CARP target while Voluntary Land Transfers (VLT) accounted for 160% accomplishment. As to idle land area, VOS accounted for 30% while compulsory acquisition by DAR accounted for only 16%.
- There was lack of support services and credit. Technology and support services were inadequate to make Fils successful. No government loans available to Fils who had to borrow at interest rates of 24-37%. DAR admits that about 2 million Fils out of 4 million Fils did not receive any support services.
- The collection of amortization payments from CARP beneficiaries at a dismal 17.8% rate. As of 2005, estimated collections from Fils was P14.3 billion with actual amount collected was only P2.3 billion.

41% of CARP beneficiaries do not till land given to them

SMOOTHED CITY—The Office of Negros Occidental Gov. Joseph Manahan revealed that 41 percent of the total of 101,752 Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries or ARBs in Negros Occidental is sitting id the land awarded to them through the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program or CARP.

According to Atty. Jose Maria Valencia, the team headed by Manahan to survey and make an actual inventory of lands given to former beneficiaries had already finished the first phase of their activity and discovered a very revealing information as to the status of the CARP implementation in the province.

Valencia said the first phase of the CARP inventory was to locate and identify the actual ARBs in the province based on the data given to them by the Provincial Agrarian Reform Office (PARO).

He said that the 25,386 ARBs representing 41 percent of the total ARBs that are not in possession of the land awarded to them anymore have either sold their rights to the land, leased them or returned them to their former employers or landlords.

The province will focus on the remaining 59 percent of the ARBs in its second phase of the inventory, which will determine if CARP helped in elevating their status in life.

Valencia said, "We have noticed that farm workers who had made a joint venture with their employers are doing better compared to ARBs that started on their own."

Valencia added that they were able to discover that farms awarded to ARBs reowner to urban centers particularly in Bacolod City have the most number of beneficiaries that gave up their lands.

The chief of staff of Manahan is positive that they can finish the inventory in less weeks time this October and make a final evaluation of the impact of CARP in the province.

A copy of the invitation will be given to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and members of Congress for their reference in deciding on whether to eliminate CARP after it expires next year, or extend it.

Valencia added that the report will include listings of ARBs with multiple Certificate of Land Ownership Award or CLOAs, the problem of local governments in collecting said property taxes on lands awarded to ARBs, and the status with Land Bank on the Philippines on payments made by the ARBs for their amortization.

"We revealed reports that it is the national government that pays the amortization of beneficiaries and it is unfair because it is the taxpayers' money that is being spent," Valencia said.

Junta lifts curfew, but fear still stalks Burma



A BURMESE activist holds a picture of Aung San Suu Kyi while protesting in front of the Burma Embassy in Bangkok on Oct. 21. **AP**

MANILA—RESIDENTS IN RANGOON (Yangon) on Sunday welcomed the end of a curfew imposed on the city of 10 million people in the capital of Myanmar, but again stood wary in the wake of the country's two-faced junta.

The government ended the curfew Sunday in Rangoon, Myanmar's main city, where authorities violently put down pro-democracy protests, led by Buddhist monks, in late September, killing at least 13 people and jailing about 3,000.

Students in Rangoon said they were relieved to end the end of the night curfew, which lasted from 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., but confided that they did not yet feel that life had returned to normal. "People are very happy about the end of the curfew. We are free now," said one company official in his 30s, who declined to be named.

But people, including myself, con-

tinued to worry about the situation because of what happened in Rangoon last month," he said.

The end of the curfew came as military rule, Burma's new post-war ruler, General Sn Win, stepped up economic reforms on Sunday, with the United States Friday stepping up sanctions against the top generals including presidential Gen. Than Shwe.

Therms, under military rule since 1962, introduced little public dissent, but activists rallied to support following a massive strike in last year, and mobilized into the biggest challenge under military rule in nearly five decades. A 50-year-old businessman said the war was glad that the government lifted the curfew, but added the would not move from Rangoon's golden Shwepyithar, a bustling port for protesters.

"I would like to go to Shwepyithar

because, but since not go there right now I am too afraid," she said.

While activists have sharply increased the security presence around the people, Burma's most important landmark, several government officials were still standing guard on Sunday.

A 41-year-old mother of a teenage boy said the continuation of the curfew despite the end of the curfew.

"My son is very happy because he can go out with his friends at night. But I am worried about the security situation. I asked my son not to stay outside too long," she said.

During the curfew days, several people hanging out at tea shops last night, were easily quiet.

One tea shop owner said he hoped more customers would return after the end of the curfew.

"My business suffered during the

curfew because I had to close my shop around 7:00 p.m., and most of all, we had very few customers," said the owner of the tea.

It was too dangerous for many people to argue on many people in Rangoon, one of the world's poorest nations, where few people are allowed to go to restaurants.

"I hope customers will return to my shop soon. I want my business to return to normal again," he said.

After the curfew, the junta also imposed a ban on the Internet in a bid to curb the flow of images and other material on the deadly protests being spread around the world.

Internet access was restored only recently, but the military government continued to ban foreign media, including the BBC and Voice of America, as well as news outlets run by related businesses. **AP**

Genetic factor in AIDS progression seen critical

WASH.—SCIENTISTS in Thailand have found a genetic factor that may speed up the progression of AIDS in individuals infected with HIV, according to a study published on Sunday in the journal *Science*.

The finding challenges earlier research that suggested that the virus itself, rather than the immune system, was the key factor in the progression of AIDS.

The researchers found that individuals with a certain genetic factor, known as CCR5-Δ32, were less likely to progress to AIDS.

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Iran: No change in nuclear line after Larijani

TEHRAN—HIGH JUDGE Ebrahim Karubi said Sunday that Iran's nuclear policy would not change after the election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as president.

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with President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad over the handling of that position.

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and Islamic secretary of the Supreme National Security Council—has the job of leading talks with the European Union and the United States over the Iranian nuclear issue.

But foreign ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Jafarizadeh said on Sunday the change in personnel did not herald any switch in policy. **AP**

WORLD BRIEFS

Syria closes last exit for fleeing Iraqis

GENEVA—SYRIA—The only remaining route for fleeing Iraqis has been closed by the Syrian government, according to a report from the United Nations. The report says that the Syrian government has closed the last remaining route for fleeing Iraqis, which had been used by thousands of Iraqis to escape the conflict in Iraq. The report also says that the Syrian government has been accused of blocking the route for fleeing Iraqis, which had been used by thousands of Iraqis to escape the conflict in Iraq.

Poland voters to pass judgment on Kaczynski

WARSAW—Poland's voters will pass judgment on Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski's leadership in the upcoming parliamentary elections, according to a report from the United Nations. The report says that the Polish government has been accused of blocking the route for fleeing Iraqis, which had been used by thousands of Iraqis to escape the conflict in Iraq.



KACZYNSKI

Rightists seen winning big in Swiss vote

ZURICH—The right-wing Swiss People's Party (SVP) is set to win a landslide victory in the upcoming parliamentary elections, according to a report from the United Nations. The report says that the Swiss government has been accused of blocking the route for fleeing Iraqis, which had been used by thousands of Iraqis to escape the conflict in Iraq.



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The World

Editor: Lawrence E. Gonzo

New leaders, economic plans in China as key Congress ends

BEIJING—CHINA'S COMMUNIST PARTY ON Sunday endorsed Hu Jintao's new economic model for the country, while opening the way for a top leadership reshuffle that will likely see the president consolidate his power.

Following the end of its five-yearly Congress, the 16, 16, is a historic occasion to be given a second term as party chief on Monday alongside a revamped lineup of leaders in the nation's most powerful political organ.

That body, the party's standing committee, will convene in Beijing, reportedly for one session but will see as many as four new faces in Monday's reshuffle, following the complex political wrangling that took place over Congress.

The party's growing awareness of the need for a new leadership was a key theme of the weeklong gathering, which brought more than 2,000 top leaders to Beijing to endorse the party's push for the new face, in effect, to endorse the leadership succession.

His chosen one is a good fit for the country's economic reforms.

the country that he has termed "socialist development."

This broadly means a greater emphasis on addressing environmental concerns and China's energy of power as the nation develops, rather than a sole focus on breaking economic growth as was the case under the previous leader, Jiang Zemin.

The move to include this in the country's constitution was seen as a sign that the president has been able to shake off some of the lingering influence of Jiang since succeeding him five years ago.

The making of the new Central Committee was also seen to have been a task regarded as done by Jiang, who continues to wield some influence.

He and Jiang, who Jiang also

on Sunday was Vice President Hu Jintao, 48, a man previously seen as being aligned with Jiang and who can be seen as the Standing Committee.

Xiang, Wu Guanzhong, 68, the head of the party's disciplinary committee, and seniority chief Liu Qian, 72, were named on the party's new Central Committee, meaning they cannot be reappointed to the Standing Committee.

Two of the younger generation widely expected to be promoted were the Standing Committee member Shanghai party chief Xu Jiahui, 54, and Li Ruijing, 52, head of northeastern Liaoning province and a political rival of Hu.

Li and Xu are regarded as the two favorites in the race to succeed Hu in 2012.

Among the other notable changes in the Central Committee lineup on Sunday was the removal of Vice Premier Wu Yi, known as the "iron lady" and the nation's most powerful woman.



COMMUNIST leaders and delegates arrive for the national congress in Beijing, endorsing Hu Jintao's new economic model for the country.

Pakistan at tipping point after Karachi bloodbath, say analysts

KARACHI—THE BLOODSHED at Karachi's Shalimar hotel, which resulted in the deaths of 17 people, has put Pakistan at a tipping point, say analysts.

The country's political situation is at a tipping point, say analysts. The country's political situation is at a tipping point, say analysts.

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Louisiana elects first Indian-American gov

WASHINGTON—THE state of Louisiana has elected its first Indian-American governor, Bobby Jindal.



Palestinian gunmen planned to kill Olmert

TEL AVIV—PALESTINIAN gunmen planned to kill Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, according to a report.

The report states that the gunmen planned to kill Olmert during a visit to the West Bank.

The report also mentions that the gunmen were part of a larger operation.

The report further details the planned attack and the involvement of various groups.

The report concludes with information about the Israeli security forces' response.

The report also mentions the impact of the attack on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The report ends with a statement about the ongoing situation in the region.

SO THE PUBLIC MAY KNOW



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and
Philippine Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, Inc.



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- SPORTS DRINKS, ENERGY DRINKS, SWEETENED TEA, COMMERCIAL CARBONATED BEVERAGES, and COMMERCIAL FRUIT JUICES are UNSUITABLE remedies. They contain too much sugar (> 50g/L) and insufficient amount of salts, and can worsen the diarrhea. Salty fluids, such as commercial soups, are also not recommended.

For further advice consult your pediatrician or email ppsnrc@ppsn.org.ph / ppsnrc@skysc.net.ph

US FDA panel urges ban on child colds medicine

SEATTLE, WASH.—A FOOD and Drug Administration panel of experts urged Friday to ban over-the-counter cold medicines for children under the age of 6.

The panel's recommendation is based on concerns about the safety of these medicines for young children.

The panel also expressed concerns about the effectiveness of these medicines for children.

The panel's decision is expected to be finalized soon.

The panel's recommendation is based on concerns about the safety of these medicines for young children.

The panel also expressed concerns about the effectiveness of these medicines for children.

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SEA Games five ready with or without Gabe

By Jonathan W. Papp

THE BARRAGE OF TEAR IS ready for action in the Southeast Asian theater in Thailand in December with a PL-line animation. Gabe Norwood follows the all-American military crew.

match. Jonell Russell, "We need all the help we can get. Like with the last World Games, they partnered with us, but in the end the school didn't allow them to stay."

Samli said he is worried that Hays, Twiggens, Norwood's men in the FBI, might not immediately allow the George Mason

Club champs dispute 5 titles

Tourney at Eagle Ridge lures 25 teams

REPRESENTATIVES FROM 25 CLUBS all over the country will be the divisions into the National Tournament of Club Champions sponsored by K&N, and Japanese Golf society under various names: the Eagle, Ridge Golf and Country Club in San, Tokyo, Osaka.

The movie, ladies and gentlemen, doesn't only tell what's right—Singapore in March is hot and dry and gets a chance to watch the 1958 Pinetree Championships every where across China, Java, Sumatra and the rest of the hot places in India, too. It will show that

Inviting the ladies were an Anne Gault of Madison and Mrs. Grace as well as Louise of the sales of Cambridge, the leading students in the last two readings of the ladies' clubbing, while the students at a luncheon by Webster's Dorian Plaster and Millie Ann president Mrs. Wilson of New Crossfield.

The special division for those who did not make the 25 yards-indicator age cutoff line were juggle situations. *John Rader, Steve Leggett and Pauline and Crystal Spauld*.

[illegible][illegible]

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Alhambra Country Club	Walter C. Chaville / Victor Garcia Tanger Lane
Altamonte Golf & Country Club	Ernest Aron / Elizabeth Aik / Eric O'Hanlon Rice Road
Angel Country Golf & Country Club	Howe Garcia / Steven Miller Kirkling Lane
Arroyo Country Club	Edo Wang, Min / Edward Wang Rob Thomas
Carrollwood Golf & Country Club	James Donnelly / Philip Boyette Joe Villa Lane / 12500 Douglas Gate / Miles Road
Chickadee Golf & Country Club	Jeffrey S. Pohl
Chickadee Golf & Country Club	Rafael Garcia / Andy Doyle / Bill Braden Mick Anthony Rivers / Christine Pepp Piedra Vista
Club Wilshire Golf & Country Club	Abraham Avner / Patricia Knight Club Wilshire-Knapdale
The Clubhouse Golf & Country Club	William Ingham / Conrad Ingham / Shelley Lee John Eric, Shirley / Mary Ann, Eugene Duck-Off
The Clubhouse Golf & Country Club, Inc.	Rafael Manigault / Lee Manigault Nancy Johnson
The Club, Laguna Hills	Joseph Smith / Joe Arpaio El Lario, Taylor / Nita Powers / Eugene David
Shoreland Hills Golf Club	Jeffrey Taylor / Victor Garcia Lee Hargrave
Shoreland Hills Golf & Country Club	Augusto Francisco de Jesus / Andy Lee Chase Gate / Sunset Villa
Shoreland Hills Golf & Country Club, Inc.	Thomas Olson
The Country Club	Henry Rogers / Bill Lee
Shoreland Hills Golf & Country Club	Chris Raymond / Douglas Aquino Raymond Aquino
Shoreland Hills Golf & Country Club, Inc.	John Carlson / Ryan John Carr / Andrew Young



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BUSINESS

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Gov't revives plan to issue \$1-B OFW bonds

INQUIRER MONITOR

Reports that matter to our readers like

Services sector biggest employer (Labor Force Survey)

Weekly vote-in survey has been developed as of June 2007 and will be published weekly



Rechannel remittances to productive investments

By Gene C. Domingo

THE GOVERNMENT HAS REVIVED PLANS TO OFFER AS MUCH as \$1 billion in retail treasury bonds to reinvest Filipino workers as proposed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to harness large remittance flows for productive investments.

BSF Managing Director Ma. Cyl Alarcon said the BSP and the Bureau of the Treasury have resumed discussions on the proposed OFW bonds.

"It looks like the Treasury officials are more open this time around," Alarcon said. She said the BSP and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration were considering to hold a seminar/workshop on financial literacy, focusing on countries which have high Filipino communities.

The BSP's financial literacy program, but only in domestic locations, from financial literacy campaigns emphasizing the importance of saving and robust participation of

alternative opportunities for their remittances such as placements in financial institutions and investments in business ventures. The proposed OFW bond issuance alone is channel more OFW inflows for economic development while giving OFW households a better investment vehicle. These savings and investments are more helping prepare OFWs for future reintegration into the Philippine economy and providing additional funding for government requirements, including funds for infrastructure development.

The offering was proposed by the BSP was based on the assumption that OFWs could

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FOREIGN CURRENCIES



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As of Sept. 26, 2009

STOCK MARKET

PHILIPPINE COMPOSITE INDEX



Source: Manila Bulletin (Oct. 12, 2009)

Makati blast seen to dampen trading

THE STOCK MARKET IS EXPECTED TO take a hit this week as a power interruption at the heart of Makati's financial district sent its liquidity sensitive market investors.

Stock trading had ended Friday when an early afternoon earthquake in Manila, Makati City's prominent shopping and hotel district jolted people and threatened more than a bailout.

"We probably saw a lower peak today than the first day since the market is now the lightest for the day. It was a good day to go down," said John Hagan, head of research at AIG Capital Securities.

JHAGAN@AIG.COM

DOTC eyes NBN project with local telcos

By Risa S. Okonaka

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION and Communications (DOTC) may build a building on a new version of the National Broadband Network (NBN) project with local telecom companies near port.

Assistant Communications Secretary Corina Ferrera, who is leading the agency's efforts to improve government connectivity nationwide while meeting an information-communication system, said it is an initiative that

the timeline for the building may be 6-12 months before the first trial.

"When local telcos have a role in the specific requirements and the quality of service needed. Like for critical services we need to have a good connection, that is the connection rate and not the best speed. They will come up with concepts and suggestions as far as NBN localizations are concerned within our work. The government will then, taking all of these into consideration, prepare the service of telcos. We will then decide if, then they will adjust their of-

fices, is the very last we should do this building for our use," Ferrera said.

Transportation Secretary Leaning Marcos earlier said it is a better that despite the contribution of the current NBN deal with China's ZTE Corp., the government still needed to provide broadband access to government agencies nationwide, down to the housing offices.

"The DOTC's exploratory talks with Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., Globe Telecom, Bayan Telecommunications and Digital Global Co. is to be

mostly on how the government can use the government's information infrastructure," he said. "The DOTC has formed a working group to discuss the telecom needs of the government and to see how the private sector can best serve the best price possible."

The government's telecommunications project generally encompasses an information government offices down to the municipal level.

Morales said the initial draft version of government offices is now

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DTI still hopeful on Jpepa

By Ramon M. Domingo

TRADE OFFICIALS remain confident that the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement would be not fail even as it faces mounting resistance from groups who believe the treaty violates the constitution and would make the country a dumping ground for foreign goods.

Trade Undersecretary Thomas G. Aquino, who was the chief negotiator during the Jpepa talks, however, said the agreement would be not fail even as it faces mounting resistance from groups who believe the treaty violates the constitution and would make the country a dumping ground for foreign goods.

On Oct. 8, he said that 1041 a letter leaving on the Jpepa that the treaty violates the constitution and would make the country a dumping ground for foreign goods. He said that the treaty would be not fail even as it faces mounting resistance from groups who believe the treaty violates the constitution and would make the country a dumping ground for foreign goods.

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IMF urges RP, Asian countries to cut export dependence

By Derek C. Dunbar

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND has urged emerging Asia to reduce its over-reliance on exports and increase exchange

Says growing regional trade not a shield vs risks

flexibility to avoid creating the seeds of a new crisis. 10 years after the devastating impact that caused unprecedented a recovery in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia and South Korea.

While the region's financial services in stronger shape than in the last decade, the IMF said that more banking reform must be pursued if the region were to successfully cope with increasingly complex and volatile capital flows.

Volatility in the region are mostly a result of these challenges and the need to guard against complacency, as critics said. Export dependence has led to a surge from previously under-appreciated sources of vulnerability. The IMF said it is Asia-Pacific economic outlook released Friday.

In a chapter that discussed lessons from the Asian currency crisis, the IMF cautioned growing concerns that Asia's export orientation might build upon a new type of crisis—any region's dependence on exports as a source of growth, and a commitment to maintaining export rates needed to ensure that foreign reserves needed to ensure competitive exchange rates.

"This reliance too dependent on exports as a source of growth, and a commitment to maintaining export rates needed to ensure that foreign reserves needed to ensure competitive exchange rates."

The Fund also warned that a growing in regional trade would not necessarily provide a hedge against shocks in external demand.

"This is because in Asia, it is by and large dominated by trade in intermediate goods, in a vertically integrated system of regional supply chains spread toward the rest of the world, mostly the United States and the European Union, with China playing a key platform role," the IMF said.

But the IMF said it was premature to say whether Asia could be insulated from a crisis. It said that the region's strong dependence on exports and the growing impact of international financial linkages.

It added that the region, particularly in the U.S. and China, which were facing the challenge of continuous capital inflows, must increase exchange rate flexibility and take more steps to liberalize markets.

On balance, the IMF said Asia had learned many of the key lessons from the crisis and, while vulnerabilities exist within countries, the region is far more resilient to shocks today.

It noted that more flexible exchange rate regimes had cushioned external shocks and an imperative was clear of official reserves. It has been built up; short-term external debt had been reduced significantly; inflation targeting has provided a monetary anchor in many cases, and fiscal policies had taken on a longer-term perspective to safeguard debt sustainability.

At the same time, the level of net reserves from policyholders and private sector assets across Asia has also increased markedly, the IMF said. These improvements were seen, helping the region against systemic risks, but the Fund said a slowdown cannot be ruled out, particularly under current global conditions.

In the next issue, the IMF said Asia's economic progress appeared to be on a "less-prone" footing than in the past. "This, however, should not mask important challenges facing the region," it said.

Thus, the IMF said the main lesson of the Asian crisis was that financial institutions could work better on a more long-term basis, with a strong emphasis on macroeconomic fundamentals.

Monday's Power Ranks & Price
 (Source: PowerWatch)

Generator/Supplier	Volume (MW)	Volume (MW)	Volume (MW)
1. PG&E, Edison Electric	1,000	1,000	1,000
2. PG&E, Edison Electric	1,000	1,000	1,000
3. PG&E, Edison Electric	1,000	1,000	1,000
4. PG&E, Edison Electric	1,000	1,000	1,000
5. PG&E, Edison Electric	1,000	1,000	1,000

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Pump priming the economy

DOTC eyes NBN ... (from page 1)

THESE PRIMERES HAVE THE EXPLANATION: Pump priming the economy "is not for the flowers and fountains adorning the palace, but for the common people, and it is the government's duty to ensure that the economy is in a better position to take on the challenges ahead."

The Philippine Economic Development Authority (PEDA) has said that the government's pump priming program is not just about putting water into the pump and filling the pipe, but also about the government's duty to ensure that the economy is in a better position to take on the challenges ahead.

Multipplier effect

Let's also mention that pump priming is not just about putting water into the pump and filling the pipe, but also about the government's duty to ensure that the economy is in a better position to take on the challenges ahead.

No Free Lunch

Crisdo R. Robles



It is a common misconception that pump priming is a free lunch. It is not. It is a program that requires the government to spend money to stimulate growth beyond the normal level of the economy.

If pump priming works, we should be seeing more growth in government spending to pay for private consumption and investment spending in the economy. This is not a free lunch. It is a program that requires the government to spend money to stimulate growth beyond the normal level of the economy.

but also by a slowdown in demand abroad—also due to a continuing global recession. The world is still not over the recession pump priming. Thus, to get our economy into a better position to take on the challenges ahead, we need to see growth in the economy.

Continued on page 12

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Let's also mention that pump priming is not just about putting water into the pump and filling the pipe, but also about the government's duty to ensure that the economy is in a better position to take on the challenges ahead.

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Deficit spending

Keynes had argued that it was enough for the government to spend more to stimulate the economy, whether it has the money or not. In fact, it is not enough. It is not enough for the government to spend more to stimulate the economy, whether it has the money or not.

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Subsidy pump

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Makati ... (from page 1)

"The building would not be a landmark, but it would be a landmark in the way it is built."

In a weekly note to clients, brokerage firm Citicorp, Citicorp & Co. Inc., said that it is a landmark in the way it is built.

"This is a landmark in the way it is built. It is a landmark in the way it is built. It is a landmark in the way it is built."

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MEMBERS of the 1st Philippine Business Mission in Vietnam

Doing business in Vietnam

Windows of opportunity are wide open to RP firms

By Willy E. Arcilla
Contributor

FLORING BUSINESSMEN ARE FINDING green pastures in Vietnam, and those that are already there are encouraging their colleagues to follow suit.

Here are some tips to guide those considering putting their money in the growing economy of Vietnam.

Move fast. A fast mover advantage is critical for Vietnamese business, according to president and CEO Oscar Chua, who built his first multi-unit condo plant in Ho Chi Minh in 1996.

Today, G-adj is the leading brand in the market, and the company recently opened a second plant in Hanoi to capitalize on the growing market in the north.

Be aggressive. First is being partner and lead of advisory services, but Borneo-born Filipino businessmen may be bold and brave. Otherwise, the windows of opportunity will vanish rapidly as thousands of more aggressive businessmen from Borneo, Singapore, India and even the Middle East, seek to outdo the opportunities.

Learn to trust. Borneo also offered lots of businessmen without dealing with the bureaucracy, who used to have a reputation of being shrewd, by saying, if the Vietnamese are not trustworthy, then the country would not have attracted \$70 billion in foreign direct investments in 2008, and another \$20 billion in FDI projected for 2009.

"Once you earn their trust and respect, you will enjoy a strong partnership with them," Borneo said.

Customers to king. George Borneo of P&G Films urged Filipino businessmen to treat the customer as king (or queen), indicating that "giving the stars role" became the single most important success factor for P&G Films to achieve market leadership.

"Glad to customer life before because competition is increasing from all directions," Borneo said.

Innovation. Unilever's Chua reveals that a critical ingredient for success in Vietnam's FMCG (fast-moving consumer goods) industry is innovation, consisting of new products, formats and line extensions that constantly delight customers and strengthen brand loyalty with ads.

Simple, effective marketing. David Vanden, Unilever vice president and head of personal care products, attributed the phenomenal growth of Unilever in Vietnam to simple yet effective marketing programs that build strong brand awareness and deliver products that offer customers a meaningful reason to buy, advertising campaigns that communicate rational and emotional benefits to an audience and resonating messages, value-for-money pricing strategies, unconventional media, such as proprietary TV and online, and aggressive representation of distribution infrastructure.

Foreign brands enjoy aspirational image. Ray Borneo of Triumph Interiors noted shared that Vietnamese consumers continue to find foreign brands aspirational, and therefore it is advisable to capitalize on their favorable market to establish an image of premium quality and appeal to the upper income bracket, because even the lower income segment will aspire to own and buy these brands.

Demand is not price sensitive

Due to growing affluence and a positive disposition to foreign brands, consumers do not mind paying more.

In fact, products and services at higher prices are perceived to be of better quality. SMN's Tolly also talked about specific segments where demand even increased at very tight price levels.

GMF is in trend, raises hope, sponsors a daughter's and makes processed meat.

Keep faith in the Vietnamese. Believe in the power of the Vietnamese—the only people on Earth who have successfully defeated three global superpowers—China, France and the United States.

For having adhered to the belief in the positive attitude of the Vietnamese, Tolly like of San Miguel Purefoods succeeded in growing premium brands in only 11 years—an unprecedented record in San Miguel's international business.

In problems, don't run away from them. When the process turns in Vietnam

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS Monday

Business Features Editor: Margie Quinsaga-Bugno

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INTERVIEW BEAUTIFUL

A World of Possibilities



PSBank joins search for RP's best cops

By Dexter L. Linares

IN THE REALM OF CORPORATE SOCIAL responsibility, Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. is recognized as a staunch supporter of the education sector through its annual search for the 10 most outstanding officers in the country.

Building on this success of the parent firm, Philippine Savings Bank (PSBank) recently joined hands with the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Metropolitan Foundation and Rotary Club of New Manila East to launch the 2008 All-Out search for the country's Outstanding Officers in Service (OOS).

The program is an annual search that honors law enforcement officers and its non-commissioned officers who demonstrate integrity, courage and professional excellence.

Cooperative efforts

Speaking during the recent launching ceremony, PSBank president Pascual Valencia III said that the OOS program seeks to highlight the cooperative efforts between the police and the community in safeguarding peace and order.

Since 2003, OOS has recognized OOSs, leaders and mentors, while supporting the "One PNP" program of the police force, with emphasis on the Neighborhood Participation Theme.

"It is our duty to support every day such like the thousands of members of the PNP who place themselves in harm's way for the safety of our citizens and in the name of justice," Cordero said.

"While the role of the police is to maintain order and peace through enforcement of laws and societal norms, they also assume other functions during emergency situations and actively participate in community service," he added.

Everyday heroes

The PSBank chief explained that the institution's support for the program comes because of the recognition that "every PNP officer works for a better life, not only for himself but for the larger society as well."

Aside from its primary commitment to address the company's financial needs, the money's second largest debt bank also supports the nationwide search for "everyday heroes" who share devotion for a better society, he said.

During the OOS launch held recently in Makati City, a memorandum of agreement was signed between PSBank, represented by Valencia, and PNP Chief Arsenio Dela Rosa.

Other signatories were Metropolitan Foundation president Antonio Salazar and Rotary Club of New Manila East president Glenn Mendoza.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



(From left) PNP Director General Antonio Salazar, PSBank CEO Pascual Valencia III and Metropolitan Foundation president Antonio Salazar.



PNP officials led by PNP Director General Antonio Salazar, PSBank CEO Pascual Valencia III and Metropolitan Foundation president Antonio Salazar.

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Farmers earn extra income from coco fiber



THE PLANT was set up to provide job opportunities to the area's residents.

Tees and photos by Victoria S. Lujan
Regular Magno

TAGUBAN CITY—SOME 500 FARMING families in a small town in Eastern Samar are augmenting their income by making coconut fiber nets in the province's first and only integrated coconut processing plant.

The families have been working at the Division Integrated Coconut Processing Plant, located in Bantaya (Palang) of Tuguegarao, a 8th class municipality of Eastern Samar that is about 145 km from Tagbilaran City.

Owned and operated by the local government, the processing plant has been producing virgin coconut oil, coco leaves and other coco-based products like the coconut fiber nets, slacklines and so on.

Helelson Maras Gato O. Tugue Jr. told the farmers that they decided to concentrate more on the production of coco fiber nets, which are used to prevent soil erosion.



COCO-FIBER-BASED products are a vital source of income for the residents.

because of its higher prospects.

Goodwill nets

Tugue said that the coconut processing plant produces around 200 rolls of coco fiber nets a week.

"The size of one roll is one meter by 10 meters. At the moment, however, the price dropped to P30 per square meter," he added.

The mayor said nearly 200 families are involved in the production of coco fiber nets, with 40 families operating the hand looms and another 160 families operating the weaving machines.

"That is made from the 45 daily workers in the plant," he added.

Locusts are derived from the fibrous husks of coconuts. The fiber material from discarded coconut husks, which is commonly called coco, had to undergo further weaving and weaving for it to become a product.

Coco-grocery mats or nets are widely used as protective screens for soil and slopes.

The mayor said they wanted to expand the plant's production capacity by purchasing a bigger domesticating machine but this was delayed due to lack of fund.

Job opportunities

At present, the plant produces only 1.5 tons of coconut fiber a day.

Tugue said the plant was set up to provide job opportunities to the town's residents, particularly the farmers.

He added that several government agencies have been helping them in the setting up and operation of the plant, among them the Office of the President through Presidential Assistant Victor Danagaya and the Department of Agriculture, Industry, Trade and Forestry and Science and Technology. At present, the mayor said the group had tied up with the Department of Agriculture to provide the technology in making organic fiber nets using coconut husks.

Other potential ventures include making livestock cages and other coco-based products, Tugue said.

He said the group also plans to set aside two hectares in every barangay with one hectare for the Coconut Farming Learning Project and the other for a livelihood center where residents could earn living by making coconut-based products.

PSBank ...

Page 30

"For this year's awards, we are looking for the best men and women in the police force who are able to deliver on their sworn duty with integrity, credibility and by being [transparent]," Garcia said.

"They will go through a rigorous selection process that includes documentation of achievements, background checks and a panel interview with a distinguished board of judges representing various sectors of society," he explained.

Since 1983, the Metrobank Foundation has been providing support to programs benefiting departments of uniformed personnel of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, in recognition of their role in nation building. This support has the form mostly of grants to the PNP. In 1999, the foundation set up a special fund of P10 million specifically for the recognition of outstanding policemen.

Using the technology and experience it has gained in the conduct of the search for outstanding teachers, the foundation decided to recognize selected individuals who have excelled from among the ranks of the police force.

The goal is to bring back public confidence and respect to the PNP.

More importantly, the awards is also a way for the community to show its appreciation to the best members of the police force, whose image has declined in recent years.

"If you look at the profiles of some of the winners we have, your opinion will change," Garcia said. "You'll really be surprised at how good they are."

Registration is extended.

Regular rate for registration is extended until October 31, 2007. Extra days to get P2,000 off.

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BUSINESSMonday

Meeting of the (business) minds

Top executives discuss vital issues during 2-day meeting

IT IS NOT EVERY DAY THAT chief executive officers of top global companies get to meet and discuss management and leadership issues with their counterparts from top Philippine companies.

So, that's what the recently concluded 6th Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) was all about. The two-day conference held at the Makati Shangri-la Hotel brought no less than 900 of the country's top executives (mostly CEOs) to discuss global issues, chief financial officers, and chief information officers, to name a few, with top-notch executives of global firms.

Together in one stage were Christina Gald, CEO of Pioneer House, who talked about migration in Asia and as a secretary, and what the company is doing to improve the lives of the families of overseas Filipino workers.

There was Freddie Sacramento of the Hongkong Shanghai Banking Corp., who shared his insights of the deconstructing of the Asian economies from the US economy and how the growing influence of China should be viewed in the long term.

Dr. Don Pineda, CEO of the Philippine National Bank, shared his insights on how the country has reached out in the remote areas of India to help build the poor people through microfinance and how fast progress can be made almost solely through application of in-

novative operating systems and procedures.

And Brian Temperley, a principal of Diamond Consulting, a US firm advising lawyers of successful services, discussed the needs in servicing and how the Philippines could take advantage of the changing perceptions of buyers and the evolution of customer services.

Former Finance secretary Jose Aldeguer-Castillo, now with Credit Suisse, shared his leading decision of his bank to consider the project's impact on the environment and on the improvement in the lives of the community it serves.

The Bangkok Bank Executive Chair, Khun Sirin Piti Atung, explained the vision of the bank to be the leading bank in the region and the high level of its operations in China, India and Vietnam.

Arthur Tan, CEO of Intergen, of Microelectronics, an Asia company shared the need for the Philippine company to acquire manufacturing facilities in China and Vietnam and probably Russia to sell Philippine brand to US customers.

The chair of this year's conference and MAP's immediate past president, Evelyn S. Gargan, admitted that a conference as

big as this with 12 CEO speakers was no mean feat.

She said the organizing committee started to work on this event for the past 12 months to insure that the invited speakers would accommodate the needs of the attendees in their busy schedules and that the Philippines was the best place for the MAP group to convene in a favorable investment destination, the invited CEOs did not hesitate to come over and see the country's business environment.

The MAP group was big CEO International Conference each year. The past conferences were well attended, but the partici-

pants in this year's conference were unanimous in saying that it was the best they had attended so far.

The topics were very timely and the speakers gave their frank and unapologetic viewpoints on how they prepared themselves and their companies in response to the fast changing environment, the advances in technology and the evolving social and political atmosphere.

A look at the conference proceedings, and again from businesses will be published by MAP and will be made available to the public.



RICARDO CIO-CHA (left) and ABS-CBN's Marketing Head.



MAB Salub and Evelyn Gargan, chair of the MAP conference.



SM's Andrew Caparido (left) and Pura Pura HOF Co. (Sulu) Inc.



FREDDIE Sacramento, CEO of HSBC.



PNB director Don Pineda.



BDO's Ricardo de Guzman.



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SM's Andrew Caparido.



PNB's Arthur Tan.



PNB's Arthur Tan.



PNB's Arthur Tan.



PNB's Arthur Tan.



PNB's Arthur Tan.



Bach in the hands of young keyboard artists

A total of 74 applicants joined this year's music tilt, and 36 made it to the finals

By Felix R. Torres
Contributor

ONE YOUNG PHOENIX ARTIST, 7-12, COINED the term *Baroque* period (inspired by Johann Sebastian Bach, a German composer who died nearly 275 years ago).

Perhaps one got the name during the winner concert of the recently concluded *Young Masters* Contest of the Philippines (YMC-PH) in Manila 2007 Youth Competition.

The winner's concert showcased an array of young talents who surprisingly managed to have a clear grasp of the dynamics, articulation and expression of composers as practiced during the Baroque period.

"Their playing was just marvelous," said pianist Ts. Manuel Marañon, PTSP past president who conducted a seminar on Bach to registration students before the contest. "To be able to play Bach well, you need a discerning mind, a discerning ear and a good teacher. As you can see, the competition

was won by people under different teachers whose identities were not known in the first sets of jurats in the preliminaries. This means a good batch of young pianists has emerged and the quality of teaching has improved considerably."

On second thought, I need not doubt the ability of the young to do beautiful way beyond their years. Circle Lina was content to finish his *Brandenburg* Concerto when she was barely 14 and the no-applause-in-between movement rule simply didn't apply whether she performed it alone.

Seven-year-old Diego Karpavicius from the group of Cecilia Serrano scored much to the *Brandenburg* concerto No. 1, and 9-year-old Maria Izabela (also a student of Cecilia) also played *Brandenburg* No. 1, 11 in A minor, finished first prize in category of 4 years 10 and below.

Nine-year-old Derrick Allen Sy (group of Carmelita Alambardo), who played *Brandenburg* No. 6 in F Major with astounding



PHOTO: Teachers' Guild of the Philippines

Baroque rhythm, placed second, while 8-year-old Isabelle Joy C. (group of Anthony Kay), who played *Brandenburg* No. 6 in F Major, was equally in sync with the Baroque style.

In the 11 category, 11-year-old Isomara Model (group of Maricela Barrios) landed first, and his brother was among to be played *Bach's* *Invention No. 11 in B minor*. In 11-year-old, Derrick Allen Sy (student of Cecilia) was equally good in the same piece.

Third prizes in this category were claimed by 12-year-old Zheng Xiang (a student of George Ong) and 11-year-old James Oliver (George's brother) (student of Linda Felix).

Fourth prize, too, a first prize winner in category 10 and a student of Maria Anne Topina, rendered a well-defined *Waltz* from *Clavier* No. 1, No. 2 in C Major, while 10-year-old Isomara Model (first prize, category 11, student of Felix) delivered a dazzling *Invention in G Major*. Significantly, Isomara was the YMC-PH 2006 4 in 3 Minor of Western Germany (third prize, category 8, student of Joy) and *Clavier* *Invention* (third prize) and a student of Isomara's (Isomara's).

The rendition of "WTC," No. 2, No. 26, in 4/8 time by both Derrick-Alambardo (second prize, category 8, student of Ruby Salazar) was distinguished by late flows, while his brother's *Brandenburg* (second prize, category 11, student of Cecilia) delivered a well-disposed *Brandenburg* and *Prelude in A Minor*, while Maria-Cabrera (second prize, student of Nelly Isomara) also showed an equal clarity in her performance of *Bach's* "WTC," No. 2, No. 13 in C Major.

A total of 74 applicants joined this year's Bach competition sponsored by the Philip American Life Insurance Company, and it made it to be held. In the preliminary, the jury heard the contestants behind-curtain and not in front of the audience.

"We have to trust in this rule because the music itself is so small and everyone knows everything," said Father Marañon. "The finalists were chosen not because of who they are and their teachers but how they played behind closed curtains readily accepted from the jury."

This year's preliminary will be held Oct. 26 in "The Dark Presence."

The contest was just one of the activities lined up by PAF to observe its 55th anniversary.

The Extrada mural

This Extrada's permanent exhibit "Symphony at Sea" was recently unveiled at the 100 Building in Quana City. It was unveiled by the opening of his new-music theme with Quana City Mayor Romeo Belmonte, city Engineer, Lito Alamo and Dr. Ed Pablos as special guests.

Measuring 4 x 6 ft, "Symphony at Sea" is a brand's dedication to the 100. It was unveiled by 55th anniversary for Quana City.

Cavite arts center

An arts exhibit, "Mabuhay," initiated by an art center called Grupo Cebu recently opened at Mabuhay located in Alibon, Cavite. Promoted from this exhibit will go on the Chapter in the 100 Club, one of the projects lined up by Grupo Cebu, which represents young artists in the visual arts, literature and music in Cavite.

The arts association effort is supported by Cony and Mylene, a childless couple from Cavite.

Alibon Street, owned and managed by the Fernandez, is being used as the new harbor for the arts in Cavite. It is within the Mabuhay Grouping, a vacant spot just off the main road. Call 0444-41-20779.



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The sound of Wilwayco



EDWIN Wilbur, no's man-inspired abstraction assumes a lively but hardly light-hearted tenor in "Sickroom," a suite of oil works that will be displayed at Steeredra in Tugay soaring tonight and in Singapore next month.

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MISS SMITH



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THOMAS H. DUNN (left), "Business World" (right)

After last year's "Elton Music" and "Homage to Vivaldi," both shows inspired by the music of the Mexican musician of the late Baroque, it is perhaps expected of Williams to respond to his musical muse as to take on other composers as well. In the new show these chorales are used to inspire by musical movements from concertos by such renowned composers as Chopin, Scriabin, Haydn, Debussy, Stravinsky and Bartok.

The focus of the show is on the scheme, which is the ideal for momentous personal movement in a sequence of being quiet. The world is divided systematically from the Italian and seems literally just or just. Although the use of scenes is hardly together and its simplicity does not usually make it obvious or even more basic. Therefore, the "Italian" here represents the movement which is basically the focus of three measures, demonstrating an abundant reality.



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Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Wilroy's approach to all of this comes across in a spirit of charm, wit, and, as Alice Guillevine is her proxy to the Singapore exhibit shows, in the form of the narrator. Generally, Wilroy's work is three measures—a square measure (44x68), a long horizontal format and a vertical format.

Depending on the location, Wilgove employs a color scheme that goes beyond warm to bright (the acoustically rich colors of red, orange and yellow) to the cool of the square and vertical motifs, and that goes from panoramic to severe (the deep colors of blue and violet) to the cool of the horizontal motifs.

muscles. In the aquatic and terrestrial forms there is diversity in the use of the application of pigments and their overlapping on a common. The malleability of the brain runs counter to the point of the brain that it supports and shortens the time that it supports. "Chlorine" is a common word, but, the artist is able to make the malleable and the material. He achieves the ability to hold strokes that have made—strokes, impulses, and even gristles—of their own kind, like highly sensitive muscles. It is a common word, but, the artist is able to make the malleable and the material. He achieves the ability to hold strokes that have made—strokes, impulses, and even gristles—of their own kind, like highly sensitive muscles. It is a common word, but, the artist is able to make the malleable and the material. He achieves the ability to hold strokes that have made—strokes, impulses, and even gristles—of their own kind, like highly sensitive muscles.

The rhetorical works, by virtue of their linear trajectory, appear to be narrative in color and strokes. Here again, Wittgenstein seems to be plying his trademark observation against the incapacity of narrative, the fact that he has like a prophet that forensic scenes are symmetric, the sequences all appeared to an indeterminate but highly dramatic point.

Thus, "Keweenaw" is like a journey without any class, like the Russian composer's "Rite of Spring," and "Infernal" is sexy and deeply felt, like the composer's "Circus Polka," albeit of dark and offbeat tone.

Callaghan and Did Berger (who also writes but never in the Singapore show) say that the new male-female unity of worker-scholarship-Weberian representation with the psychological trigger of music, as explained by Gaudin: "The vibrations of the air (sound) and of light (color) surely form the foundation of physical affinity."

But perhaps it is not so much psychology as epistemology: the interaction and construction of the sciences change the primary assumptions on one area according to the other. ART, apart from the case of music, stands in the case of painting.

If reading, words and narrative "balkanize" the senses, an abstract triggered by music works to reunite and reunite the senses. It is the achievement of Whitman's recent works that he has been able to probe the divided sensibility that exists in the dislocation of and among the senses engendered by the culture of modernity.

If there is to be any sense in saying that all art requires the conditions of means, there should be some criticism given to Wilentz's current music-spirited art: the coming together of the means that should result in the construction of the spirit.

'Scholar' by Edwin Williams opens tonight at 1st Gallery, One C208, 2/L, Stage at Avenida, Benfica Global City, Brgy. 11, 961115; www.scholar.ph; and No. 2 at Alameda Ave, 20th Flk, of River Quay Singapore; tel. 6563981; e-mail www@1stgallery.com.sg; www.1stgallery.com.sg

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Ciara's new love...

political, she's still as beautiful

Povman
During the second anniversary look of the tabloid *Variety*, Ciara told us how her love life has changed. "You may request my complete list of guys [Ciara], but I'm not going to do it," she said. "I'm not going to do it." I am not going to do it.

Even if the new look is a bit of a shock, the fact that she's still as beautiful as ever is a testament to her beauty. Speaking of beauty, I spotted a huge list of her new look in *Variety*. She's still as beautiful as ever.

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Just couldn't have enough of Groban

The star performer's gala concert had all the elements of musical theater

By Perleto Corrao

IT WAS APPARENT THIS EVENING—from Jessica Morris and Grey Anson to Rula Mue Quinto and Bill Sauter to name a few—had a good time. And Groban's performance on Wednesday at the packed PRC Plenary Hall had elements of musical theater. There was drama as well as a rock-like refrain (that, plus lots of intense emotion).

Groban himself was all over the stage, doing both one end to the other. On the night, he was straight for the crowd, giving facts and singing parts in various accents and providing him the stage.

It could've been thoughtfully put, except the star performer had said nothing in classical music and was perceived to be singing in the direction when his debut album was released in 2001.

After intense collaboration with artists from different genres, Groban refused to be

restricted to create an open-ended. But on Wednesday, he did exhibit dramatic flair, especially in his signature songs ("You Raise Me Up," "To Where We Are," "The Prayer"), although he had difficulty sustaining some high notes after a while.

Then again, he may be doing it like any pop singer would—singing when the lights turned out of cutting off a chance to perform in Italian.

On the other hand, the electric nature of the experience—sung in French, Italian, Spanish and English—provided new possibilities through which contemporary music could be appreciated in a deeper, stimulating manner.

At 26, Groban is a big handsome guy, dressed in a few bars of his. As "The Prayer" and "To Where We Are," he sings, saying himself on the stage.

Then, his musical experience could have enough of him. He made several moments... and couldn't be back.



JOHN G. HARRIS/REUTERS/PHOTO.COM
They wouldn't let him go off to create a new

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